

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 EB-04 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 L-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2446

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 10967

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SHUM, PDIP, UNCTAD, RP

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: ORGANIZING FOR MULTILATERAL  
DIPLOMACY AND MULTILATERAL IMPACT ON GOP

REF: (A) STATE 159747; (B) STATE 148782; (C) 76 MANILA 3049;  
(D) 76 STATE 37591

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ANALYSIS PROVIDED REFTEL C GENERALLY  
STILL OBTAINS. GOP'S COOPERATION IN MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS  
WILL CONTINUE TO BE DETERMINED BY A) PERCEPTION OF ITS  
OWN INTEREST; B) STATE OF US-RP BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP;  
C) EFFORT IDENTIFY WITH THIRD WORLD; D) DESIRE TO MAINTAIN  
ASEAN CONSENSUS. TRADITIONALLY, PHILIPPINES IS STRONG  
SUPPORTER OF EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MAY,  
WITHIN LIMITS, EXERCISE MODERATING INFLUENCE ON ITS COLLEAGUES IN  
DEVELOPING WORLD. THIS MESSAGE COMMENTS BRIEFLY ON KEY  
ISSUES OF MULTILATERAL IMPORTANCE SPECIFIED PARA 3, REFTEL  
B, AND UPDATES QUESTIONNAIRE IN PARA 7, REFTEL D AS REQUESTED  
REFTEL A. END SUMMARY.

2. NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC ISSUES. PRESIDENT MARCOS, IN HIS  
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EFFORT TO ASSUME A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE THIRD  
WORLD, HAS FIRMLY COMMITTED THE PHILIPPINES TO SUPPORT  
THE NIEO - IN PRINCIPLE. IN PRACTICE, THE GOP HAS  
GIVEN NO MORE THAN PASSIVE SUPPORT TO THE UNCTAD-SUPPORTED  
PROGRAMS WHICH ARE THE FOCUS OF THE CURRENT NORTH-SOUTH  
DIALOGUE, E.G., THE COMMON FUND, DEBT RESCHEDULING, ETC.  
THE EMBASSY HAS CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVING THE

GOP AWAY FROM THE MORE STRIDENT UNCTAD POSITIONS BY ATTEMPTING TO MEET MORE OF THE RP'S BILATERAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. WE HAVE DECIDED THAT SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD FAIL, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE OF PRESIDENT MARCOS' CONVICTION THAT THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ROLE OF THE PHILIPPINES LIES WITHIN THE GROUP OF 77. ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE GROUP OF 77 PROGRAMS ARE NOT REPEAT NOT REALLY COMPATIBLE WITH GOP ECONOMIC THINKING, THE PHILIPPINES GENERALLY MOVES WITH THE HERD ON THESE ISSUES. WE BELIEVE THE ONLY PRACTICAL WAY TO INFLUENCE THE GOP WOULD BE TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THE "POINT COUNTRIES" IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, INCLUDING, OF COURSE, THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT. THE PHILIPPINES WOULD THEN FOLLOW ALONG.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS. SINCE BEGINNING OF YEAR AND ESPECIALLY IN PAST THREE MONTHS, WE HAVE ENGAGED IN SERIOUS AND, WE BELIEVE, PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH GOP ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. PRESIDENT MARCOS IS ACUTELY AWARE OF HIS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF RP-US RELATIONS. HE HAS MADE BEGINNING EFFORTS TO FURBISH HIS HUMAN RIGHTS IMAGE AND TO IMPROVE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION HERE. GOP HAS ALWAYS PRIDED ITSELF ON ITS HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD WITHIN UN (SEE MANILA 76 A-283). GOP WAS LONG CRITICAL OF US SOUTHERN AFRICA POLICY, PARTICULARLY USG APPROACH TO APARTHEID, AND HAS WELCOMED RECENT CHANGES. THUS, WHILE GOP ANXIETY OVER POSSIBLE IMPACT OF US HUMAN

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RIGHTS POLICY ON BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WILL PERSIST, WE CAN BE REASONABLY CONFIDENT OF GOP SUPPORT FOR OUR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES IN MULTILATERAL FORA.

4. UN BUDGET CONTROL AND STRUCTURAL ISSUES. AS REPRESENTATIVE OF FOUNDING MEMBER OF UN AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF GA, FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO HAS LONG BEEN PROPONENT OF CHARTER REFORM AND UN REORGANIZATION. UN DIVISION IS ONE OF FEW COMPETENT DEPARTMENTS IN DFA. GOP, AS RELATIVELY SOPHISTICATED DEVELOPING NATION, SHOULD SUPPORT EFFORTS TO RATIONALIZE UN FINANCES AND ORGANIZATION. COUNTERING THIS FAVORABLE FACTOR IS GOP'S DESIRE TO IDENTIFY WITH THIRD WORLD, AND GROUP OF 77 IN PARTICULAR. WE DOUBT GOP WOULD STRONGLY RESIST LDC CONSENSUS SHOULD IT DEVELOP ON ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES EVEN WHEN GOP PERCEIVES SUCH CONSENSUS MAY HAVE ADVERSE IMPACT ON UN SYSTEM AS A WHOLE.

5. UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. GOP ALSO ESCHEWS POLITICIZATION OF ILO AND UNESCO AND APPRECIATES DAMAGE POLITICIZATION HAS DONE TO US SUPPORT FOR SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. THIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MANILA 10967

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ESPECIALLY TRUE OF ILO OF WHICH GOP LABOR SECRETARY  
OPLE RECENTLY SERVED AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT. DESPITE  
THIS AWARENESS, HOWEVER, GOP WILL HAVE DIFFICULT TIME IN  
RESISTING PRESSURES TO GO ALONG (ESPECIALLY ON MIDDLE EAST)  
WITH LDC'S ON ISSUES WHICH FIND THEIR WAY INTO THESE FORA AND  
AT BEST WILL PROBABLY ABSTAIN ON SENSITIVE ISSUES AS IT  
DID IN RECENT ILO VOTE.

6. UPDATE OF QUESTIONNAIRE.

A) PRIMARY MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN  
1977. SINCE THIS COULD BE SECRETARY ROMULO'S LAST HURRAH  
AT UNGA (ALTHOUGH NO ONE IS TAKING ANY BETS), HE MAY  
WELL PUSH FOR HIS PET PROJECT, CHARTER REFORM. RECENTLY  
GOP MADE STRONG PITCH FOR VACANT SEAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMIS-  
SION (WHICH WENT TO IRAN), BUT SO FAR WE HAVE NOT BEEN  
APPROACHED BY GOP ON ANY OTHER CANDIDACIES. GOP IS SEEKING  
HOST UNCTAD IN 1978 AND ALSO WANTS HOST TECHNOLOGY AND  
SCIENCE CONFERENCE IN 1979, ALTHOUGH UNCTAD SEEMS PRIME  
TARGET. SHOULD SHE APPEAR IN NY AS SHE DID AT LAST TWO  
GAS, MRS. MARCOS MAY BE EXPECTED RENEW HER PLEA FOR  
INTERNATIONAL CODE OF ETHICS AND/OR MAKE SOME OTHER GRANDIOSE  
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PROPOSAL WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF IMPLEMENTATION.

B) INFLUENCE ON GOP MULTILATERAL POLICY MAKING. IN VIEW OF GROWING CONCERN AT LIMITED TANGIBLE ACHIEVEMENT THUS FAR BY ASEAN, WE EXPECT THAT ASEAN, AFTER KL SUMMIT, WILL BE MORE ANXIOUS THAN EVER TO SHOW ITS SOLIDARITY. THIS COULD MEAN RELATIVELY CONSISTENT BLOC VOTING IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. GIVEN CONSERVATIVE COLORATION OF ASEAN LEADERSHIP, GROUP WOULD GENERALLY COME DOWN ON MODERATE SIDE. AS POINTED OUT REFTEL D, HOWEVER, ISLAMIC ORIENTATION OF INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA PLUS CAUTIOUS GOP APPROACH TO ME OIL SUPPLIES MAKE IT UNLIKELY GOP WILL WANDER OFF ARAB RESERVATION WHEN IT COMES TO VOETS ON ME ISSUES. NEXT IN IMPORTANCE TO GOP TO ASEAN SOLIDARITY IS ITS THIRD WORLD IMAGE. GOP EXPERIENCE IN COLOMBO NAC MAY HAVE MADE IT LESS ANXIOUS THAN PREVIOUSLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OR OBSERVER STATUS IN NAC. STILL GOP NOT ANXIOUS TO LOOK LIKE "AMERICAN BOY" AND WILL TRY TO STICK WITH NON-ALIGNED GROUP, PARTICULARLY GROUP OF 77 AS MUCH AS IT CAN.

C) HOW GOP DELEGATIONS ARE INSTRUCTED. SEE 2C REFTEL D. IN 1977 OUR MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS EFFORT WITH GOP, PARTICULARLY AT UN, COULD BE COMPLICATED BY APPOINTMENT OF MRS. MARCOS' BROTHER, AMBASSADOR BENJAMIN ROMUALDEZ, TO SUCCEED CAREER DIPLOMAT, NARCISO REYES WHO WILL SHORTLY BECOME RP AMBASSADOR TO PEKING. (ROMUALDEZ' APPOINTMENT AS RP PERM REP IN NEW YORK IS REPORTED IN THE OFFING, BUT HAS NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED.) ROMUALDEZ IS POLITICAL ADVISER AND CONFIDANT OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. MARCOS, SERVING AS ADVANCE MAN FOR ALL THEIR FOREIGN TRIPS. HE HAS HAD LITTLE MEANINGFUL DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE AND COULD BE SENT TO THE UN PRESUMABLY IN PART TO ENSURE THAT

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HIS SISTER HAS A MOST CONGENIAL FORUM FOR WHAT HAVE BECOME ANNULA VISITS. WITH ROMUALDEZ AS UN AMBASSADOR, COORDINATION BETWEEN RP UN MISSION AND DFA, WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN OF THE HIGHEST ORDER, MAY WELL BECOME MORE DIFFICULT. ROMUALDEZ COULD ALSO BE INCLINED TO VOTE ON ISSUES LARGELY ON BASIS OF QUICK POLITICAL ADVANTAGE HE MIGHT THINK COULD ACCURE TO THE MARCOSES.

D) POWER OF GOP REPRESENTATIVES IN VARIOUS FORA. NO CHANGE FROM REFTEL D. IF AMBASSADOR BENJAMIN ROMUALDEZ IS APPOINTED TO UN, HOWEVER, THE RP MIGHT FIND HIM MORE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL AND INSTRUCT THAN THE PROFESSIONAL INCUMBENT.

E) RECEPTIVITY TO U.S. REPRESENTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES.

GOP HAS NOT ORDINARILY SOUGHT U.S. VIEWS ON SUBSTANTIVE  
ISSUES, BUT IT HAS ASKED OUR SUPPORT FOR VARIOUS CANDIDACIES.

7. EMBASSY MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS OFFICE IS POLITICAL  
COUNSELOR ROBERT WENZEL.  
STULL

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## Message Attributes

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